

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-18 are rejected.

Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112.

Claims 12-13 and 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Applicant requests reconsideration and allowance of the claims in light of the above amendments and following remarks.

Specification

Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because of "means" (L 1). Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Correction has been made by replacing the Abstract with one of proper form.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 1 is amended to overcome the rejection by providing proper antecedent basis for "the electrode pads". Support may be found, among other locations, on page 5, line 28.

Claim 17 is amended to change claim dependence from claim 12 to claim 15. Claim 18 depends on claim 17, which in turn depends on claim 15. Thus claim 15, with amended claim 17, now provides proper antecedent basis for "the substrate conveyor unit" in claim 18.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 12-13 and 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim et al. (US 2004/0108582 A1) in view of Nam et al. (US 6,742,561).

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Kim et al. has a publication date of June 10, 2004 later than the filing date of the present application (July 29, 2003) or the priority date of the present application (Aug. 14, 2002). Therefore, Kim et al is not prior art to the present application under another

subsection of 35 U.S.C. 102, other than 35 U.S.C. 102 (e), (f), and (g). Thus, the removal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 1-11 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office Action.

As stated above, claim 1 has been amended to overcome the rejection.

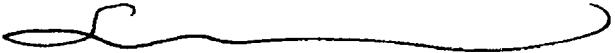
Applicant also thanks the Examiner for indicating that Claims 14-16 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office Action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

As stated above, claim 17 has been amended to overcome the rejection.

For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-18 of the application as amended is solicited. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

Respectfully submitted,

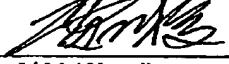
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Limited Recognition Under 37 CFR § 10.9(b)

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